Complaints against Educational Institutions

†662. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received against the educational Institutes during the last two years;

(b) the details of the action taken against such educational institutes;

(c) whether it is a fact that in spite of Government aid these institutes indulge in increasing the fees time and again; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken against this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Dropouts in Schools

663. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of students are not able to pursue their education upto middle or secondary stages because of lack of means;

(b) if so, the percentage of such dropouts;

(c) whether government have conducted any survey to ascertain whether high cost of education and difficulty to comprehend subjects like English and Modern Maths without the help of tutor are some of the reasons for dropouts; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) As per information available with the Ministry, for the year 2002-03, about 53 per cent students in classes I-VIII and 63 per cent students in classes I-X, dropped out of school due to various reasons including financial and social conditions.

(c) No such specific survey has been conducted by the Ministry for the purpose.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(d) Some of the steps taken by the Government to reduce the dropout rate are:

— Education has been made free for all children between 6 to 14 years.

— Monitoring of attendance by the community.

— Micro planning and household survey to identify the dropouts and reasons therefor.

— Organising retention drives.

— Improving the quality of teaching to retain children in school.

— Organising bridge courses/back to school camps etc. to bring the dropouts back into school.

— Providing cooked midday meal to boost the efforts towards "universalisation of primary education" by increasing enrolment, retention and attendance and simultaneously impacting on the nutrition of students in primary classes.

Total Literacy Programme

664. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The number of study centres set up under the Total Literacy Programme, Statewise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the study centres to achieve the target of educating all by 2015; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The total Literacy Programme is volunteer based and literacy is imparted by the Volunteer Teachers to non-literates. Volunteer teachers impart literacy to learners at convenient locations. The programme is implemented in a campaign mode and does not envisage setting up of permanent study centres.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Open university in the North-Eastern Region

665. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: